

Applicant(s): Van Arendonk, et al.
Serial No.: 09/932,101
Filed: August 17, 2001
For: OPTICAL COMPONENT AND METHOD OF MANUFACTURING SAME
Art Unit: 2839
Examiner: Prasad, Chandrika

NL000473

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims as follows:

1. (previously presented) An optical component comprising:

a first element with at least one opening and a light-emission surface;

a second element with a light-entrance surface; and

a bonding layer interconnecting said elements being situated between said surfaces,

wherein said bonding layer is a transparent layer of paraffin.

2. (previously presented) The optical component of claim 1, wherein said paraffin fills a capillary space.

3. (previously presented) The optical component of claim 1, wherein said transparent layer of paraffin is a solid substance at temperatures below 50°C.

4. (previously presented) The optical component of claim 1, wherein said layer of paraffin has a thickness of maximally 200µm.

5. (previously presented) The optical component of claim 1, wherein said transparent layer of paraffin and the second element have essentially equal refractive indices at the light-entrance surfaces.

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6. (previously presented) The optical component of claim 1, wherein said second element is a light-receiving image sensor which, in conjunction with the first element, forms an image pick-up device.

7. (previously presented) The optical component of claim 6, wherein said first element is a plate accommodating a bundle of fibers which open into the light emission surface.

8. (previously presented) A method of manufacturing an optical component comprising a first element with at least one opening and a light-emission surface and a second element with a light-entrance surface, a bonding layer interconnecting said elements being situated between said surfaces, wherein said first element and said second element are fitted together by joining said surfaces so as to form a capillary space, which capillary space is filled by making it suck up liquid paraffin, said paraffin is cooled and solidified so as to form a bonding layer of transparent paraffin in the said capillary space.

9. (previously presented) The method of claim 8, wherein said surfaces of the said elements are pressed against each other.

10. (previously presented) The method of claim 8, wherein said opening of said first element enables said light-entrance surface to be close to said light-emission surface.

11. (currently amended) The method of claim 8, wherein one or more walls of said opening may be varied to effectuate for accurate adjustment of said bonding layer.

12. (previously presented) The method of claim 8, wherein at least a portion of said second element engages said opening.

13. (previously presented) The optical component of claim 1, wherein said opening of said first element enables said light-entrance surface to be close to said light-emission surface.

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14. (currently amended) The optical component of claim 1, wherein said opening has walls that may be varied ~~to effectuated~~ for accurate adjustment of said bonding layer.

15. (previously presented) The optical component of claim 1, wherein at least a portion of said second element engages said opening.